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UNITED STATES  
SAN DIEGO  
CALIFORNIA  
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POSTAGE GUARANTEED

# California GARDEN

10c



Merry  
Christmas



DECEMBER  
1 9 3 9

Schizanthus

Katherine Stickney Sneve

Poinsettia

Ida E. McLean

Chrysanthemum Show

Coralinn B. Tuttle

Christmas Story

Dr. La June Foster

Nomenclature

Antoinette K. Gardener

Gleanings

Ida Louise Bryant

Problems of the Soil

Robt. R. McLean

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## This Marvelous Schizanthus

By KATHERINE STICKNEY SNEVE

Sixteen years ago I came to live in San Diego. A friend took me to the spring show of the Floral Association. Anyone coming from a cold climate will know my ecstasy and delight.

"What is that?" as we stood before some pots of exquisite, feathery flowers. "Schizanthus, Poor Man's Orchid or Butterfly Flower." A few times found them again in friend's gardens. Then, when I built my lath-house a few years ago I made up my mind to try schizanthus.

They come up easily, two hundred little plants from a package of seed that first year. I tried them in pots, starting them in little ones and building up to six inch. I put some in the ground and the tiny things stood our freeze and made a lovely feathery mass of color in April and May.

My pots were lovely, but too tall and leggy so I decided to try nipping them sooner the next year. That did the trick. Nip them when the main stalk is about two inches high. Take the whole bunch of tiny leaves in the center.

I use Kraft Cheese boxes to start my seed, with lots of rubble in bottom for drainage. They stay damp and you can have ten or twelve kinds of seed started without taking up much space. I started schizanthus in August, and some in September this year but you still could sow now.

Schizanthus seeds are tiny so just sift a little bit of sand over them and press in. I set the box in water and let it rise to the top. Put a teaspoon of Semisan in the water to keep them from damping off, drain and put a piece of glass over the box, then newspaper for darkness. If it is warm weather the seeds pop up in two or three days so watch them; take off paper and prop glass up on one side so as to get air in. Transplant into a flat as soon as they get their true leaves and into three-inch pots when an inch and a half high. Don't pot too tightly, tapping on bench will almost do it. Be sure to scrub your pots clean. Set pots in pan of water until they are thoroughly wet. Don't let them get root-bound. When the sides are white with roots put them into the next size pot. Mine last year were finally in seven or eight inch pots; some very bushy ones I put in nine or tens. Pot more firmly as the pots get larger.

I put short bamboos in the pots and tie at the bottom when the plants are five or six inches. Have been using the new twistems this year and like them. When your schizanthus are in six inch pots put in about twenty-five inch bamboos; then you will have to do some tying. A friend gave what was left from a green raw silk dress and that was fine, soft and strong but thin. Nip again to keep the plants shapely. I sometimes use three or

four bamboos to the pot.

Schizanthus is very thirsty and will stand a lot of sun if you keep them damp. They ought to have some sun or they get very tender and brittle and hard to work with. They haven't any pests that I know of except birds, when very tiny. Some of the leaves get yellow which I cut, because a new shoot (Continued on Page 9)

## POINSETTIA

Poinsettias are now abloom

In all their regal glory,  
With crimson bright to rout the gloom

And shout the Christmas Story!

Sublimest story ever told

On this weary, sin-sick earth;  
Event long prophesied of old—  
Of the Christ, our Saviour's birth.

The same the wond'ring shepherds heard

As they watched their flocks by night,  
And angel heralds brought the word

That turned darkness into light!

Of Christ, who needs no diadem

Such as kings of earth may own;  
His crown, the homage of all men;  
Their hearts, His Royal Throne.

Oh, that men would heed the message

Angels brought to Bethlehem;  
Oh, that now, their song might presage

Peace On Earth, Good Will To Men!

—Ida E. McLean



# Chrysanthemum Show DeLuxe

By CORALINN B. TUTTLE

The New York Horticulture Society has for many years staged a Chrysanthemum Show in the spacious halls of the Natural History Museum and although no expense is spared to make it one of the finest flower shows in the world, it is open without cost to the public.

Entering a large foyer one steps into a formal garden setting. In the center was a replica of a church about ten by twenty feet and six to eight feet high, composed of trained cascade Chrysanthemums of the small yellow type that looks like a marguerite. It is called Jean Hart and is used in its different shades for cascades, altho some "spoon" types were also used. Surrounding the church were small balled trees, large forms shaped like peacock tails, vases, stars and other shapes, all made of blooming cascades. Hundreds of clipped panels four by eight feet high made a background for the scene. I must confess though that I did not like them as well as the many informal waterfall effects.

From this room one enters a long hall and here were exhibits of large single blooms not less than fifty to a vase, each flower the size of a saucer and of very lovely shades. Here are a few of those that appealed to me. Red Rover, russets; Sonia, shell pink; Melba, cactus type of flame; Mrs. J. S. Kelly, pink; Stewart, white; Tuxedoa, pink anemone type; Freda a white anemone.

In the many recesses in the walls of the hall were dining table arrangements. The blue ribbon went to the Marshall Fields estate. It was an oblong vase of mauve dripping spider type Chrysanthemums with black berries of English privet, sprays of cistus foliage and small purple pompom Chrysanthemums. The table appointments were in purple glass.

It is impossible to describe the huge baskets of large ball chrysanthemums in every color, and each perfect bloom larger than a man's

head. These were grown in hot-houses of the estates of the Morgans, Tilfords, Marshall Fields, Blissés and others. Then came long aisles of arrangements which were each very beautiful. Fall foliage and russet colors of chrysanthemums allow for so much artistic effect.

The main hall was a rectangular,

## Natures Xmas Story

A mysterious spirit pervades the air  
Tho' skies are balmy, blue and fair;

For Christmas-time is near, we know.

The brilliant flowers e'en tell us so.

The gay Poinsettia—flaming red,  
With a cap of crison on it's head,  
The timely Christmas berries, too,  
Take on their flaming scarlet hue.

There too a Holly-tree is bright,  
Against the mantle of the night.  
While soft in beds, the lilies rest  
Tho' Easter finds them at their best.

And nearby roses lift their heads  
From 'mong the shady violet beds.

So nature seems at wintry best,  
Poinsettia, holly and all the rest.  
We wonder why she is so kind  
To bring such gifts to heart and mind,

To cheer us on our journey, here,  
Relieve our minds of doubt and Fear;

This time of war, distress and pain,  
Again recall—Our Saviours name.

Since Christmas is His Special Day.  
Perhaps our God has paved the way,

With cloth of lovely shade and hue,  
And grassy carpets, set with dew.  
So friends, as Christmas comes this year

Let's bow our heads, forget our fear.

Let war suspire and doubt depart.  
And welcome Jesus—to our heart.

Dr. La June Foster

formal garden with rustic arbors at each end. These arbors were beautiful affairs with lovely cascade chrysanthemums in fall colors dripping from the rafters. Borders were filled with chrysanthemums of all types and huge beds of begonias and roses interspersed the center.

The begonias on display were new to me. They are a cane type, growing about two and a half feet high and are a mass of bloom. The blossoms are similar to the tuberous begonia flower, but smaller. I noticed that the plants bear single and double flowers like the tuberous also. They say that it is a winter bloomer and of course is only grown under glass here. A bulbous flower, Nerine, was displayed in two large beds—15x25 feet in very colorful shades of rose. On each side of the garden plot which was about fifty feet in length were recesses filled with orchid exhibits. These were from private estates as well as some commercial growers and there is no possibility of my feeble pen describing them.

One exhibit especially intrigued me, typically Californian. That was a most excellent collection of gourds grown right here in New York City. And the displays of garden vegetables were very artistic. It is surprising how handsome leeks, purple cabbage, white cauliflower and swirls of long green string beans against a background of spinach can be. The potatoes were so large and smooth they seemed to be molded in wax.

We had a long visit with Arthur Herrington who for twenty five years has been the manager of this show and the great Spring Show, as well as numerous other smaller shows. He informed us that it cost over ten thousand dollars to stage the chrysanthemum show, but the Horticulture Society and its patrons gave it freely to the public as a contribution to the hunger of city people for the beauty of nature. He said that on Sundays from ten to five o'clock they were able to estimate that over twenty-five thousand people pass through the halls.

This year they present each visitor with a pretty booklet on the



cover of which are these words "The Spirit of the Garden is Peace." Inside is a well worded thought to the effect that, "perhaps at no time since the inception of the Horticulture Society of New York has there been a more propitious moment than the present to spread the psychology of peace—the peace of gardens and all it reflects. Civilization itself is linked indissolubly with the call of the soil, and to America must fall the responsibility of upholding and carrying forward the work of the idealists of the past in their efforts for the aesthetic and the beautiful."

With the sense of all this beauty in my heart, may I repeat "May the peace of a garden be with you for ever more."

Coralinn B. Tuttle

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## What's in a Name?

By ANTOINETTE K. GARDENER

Have you ever stopped to think where your favorite plant or flower got its name? Not the sometimes cumbersome one given by botanists, but rather the very livable common name.

Religion has contributed many names: Marigold, really Mary's Gold, Madonna Lily, resurrection plant, star of Bethlehem, Christ-thorn, crown-of-thorns, and St. John's-wort.

The name Veronica has an interesting origin. A maiden stood along the Via Dolorosa and seeing Jesus approaching under the weight of His Cross, reached forth her napkin to wipe His face. She received the image of Christ's face upon her napkin, the vera ikonika (the true image). In the center of the flowers called Veronica there is the resemblance of a face.

The classics did their bit toward giving names. Achillea named for Achilles. Hyacinth for the youth Hyacinthus who, while playing quoits with Appollo, was killed by the jealous west wind, Zephyr, and from whose body the Hyacinth grew. Helenium named after Helen of Troy, but how much prettier if this plant were commonly known as helensplant instead of sneezeweed.

Then again names often reflect the use of the plant. One amusing story deals with the origin of the name "hawthorn." In the days before lawn mowers were invented, sheep were allowed to roam poetically over the lawns, nibbling the grass. But who wanted smelly sheep too close or upon the porches—so a fence was hidden in a trench where a stroller might come upon it unawares and perhaps exclaim "Ha-ha" in a broad English accent. These sunken fences became known as "Ha-ha." And the thorny hedge planted to discourage the sheep and help conceal the Ha-ha fence was soon corrupted into Hawthorn.

The discoverers of plants are responsible for many names: For instance, zinnia for the German botanist J. G. Zinn; Forsythia for

Robert Forsythe; Godetia for the Swiss botanist C. H. Godet, Fremontia for General J. C. Fremont who came upon the blaze of yellow glory on our own San Diego mountain sides. Clarkia was named for Captain William Clark one of the leaders of the Lewis and Clark expedition. And so on ad infinitum.

However, to me the loveliest names have been given by the gardeners who grew the flowers and rejoiced in them. What names could be more delightful than forget-me-not, morning glory, snowdrop, marguerite, meaning little pearl, and mignonette, little darling. But best of all and possibly the more significant is pansy, from the French word "pensee" or the word for thoughts. Surely a flower with so many common names as call-me-to-you, true-love, heart's-ease, god-father, does deserve the name "pensee" the word for thought.

NEW BALBOA PARK GUIDE  
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## A New Pronouncing Dictionary of Plant Names

Thirty years ago the Florists Review brought out its first dictionary of plant names. That original volume has come down through the years in successive printings, the latest of which is now available. This pocket volume in paper back is authoritative; gives to the gardener some 3000 names with pronunciation and a terse description of what it is. Gardeners who want to "talk straight" about their plants will use this little book. Florists' Publishing Company, Chicago, 1939, 25c.

—R.S.H.

PATRONIZE  
CALIFORNIA GARDEN  
ADVERTISERS

# COMPLICATIONS and COMMENT

*Call this chitter, but not tattle—call it it gossip, call it prattle—  
But whate'er may be its name, call it fun—  
This garden game!*

## PHOTINIA SERRULATA

I love this plant. Its beautiful, glossy leaves are never attacked by insects and are varied in color almost throughout the year—bronzy when young, flecking with crimson the dark green foliage as they die.

It remains, in growth, within bounds, a trait much to be desired by my thrifty self to whom it seems a terrible waste to cut away good growth. My plants are quite new and have not bloomed, but by next spring I expect the clusters of white flowers that turn so soon to bright red berries for winter.

And what more can one ask of a shrub, than that it remain interesting and ornamental day in and day out; that it have no bad habits; that it bring no unwelcome guests to vex me—waters of bitterness. I salute this plant and recommend.

Elizabeth Fleet.

## ACACIAS

Every acacia needs a good stake when planted and placed on the leeward side so the tree will lean against it; and the branches should grow longer on the windward side, and help to hold the tree and main central stem erect. All kinds of seedling trees will grow erect without staking because by nature their branches grow longer into the wind and their extra weight holds the main stem and tree erect. A small plant with a straight central stem can be made to grow erect by nipping the tip ends off on all branches on the leeward side. All larger growing trees should be planted when very small for best results.

K. O. S.

## CONTAINER

It is sometimes said that the garden can be too neat but a great convenience for the daily pick up is the use of attractive garden waste baskets placed at accessible but inconspicuous points in the garden.

—M. A. B.

## ROSEMARY

Do you realize that there is now obtainable a dwarf creeping form of "Rosemary" which, like its relative, *Rosmarinus officinalis*, is very drouth resistant? Although it is very slow to become established, it is most attractive and desirable.—K.V.L.

## OLEANDER

My chief concern lately has been an oleander that had been cut down last year from an unwieldy bush to a mere sapling. It bloomed this summer, but the recent hot spell and terrific storm burned it back and bent the slender trunk almost double. We pulled it back and anchored it securely and with plenty of water it now has the promise of many buds. Evidence is, however, that a surplus of water along the coast leaves these shrubs in an un-matured, succulent condition that makes them more susceptible to fall and winter winds.

Eunice G. McKee

## COVER

Along the base of the east wall of Haviland Hall, University of California, Berkeley, the saxifrage (*Saxifrage virginianensis*) with its large waxy leaves and pink blossoms makes a fine showing. It is easily grown from slips and in Southern California, on the north side of buildings the clean, year-round, glossy foliage and tall flower clusters of this species of the saxifrage will well repay the amateur gardener.—A.D.I.

## ROSES

Lila McCombs in the Flower Grower suggests selections of roses known to be heat resisting when grown under such extreme conditions as the San Joaquin valley. Since we grow roses for the flower, let's remember in the back country where it gets hot in the summer and stays so, that some

roses open to heat and hold better than others. Here are her selections:

Rev. F. Page-Roberts.  
Sœur Therese  
Grenoble Lulu  
McGredy's Ivory  
Paul's Lemon Pillar

## DAHLIAS

If my fairy godmother should ask me what of the large varieties I would like to add to my collection I would hand her the following list. American Legion, California Glory, Lord of Autumn, lemon yellow.

Miss Glory, a deeper yellow.

Golden Beauty, more gold than yellow.

Virginia Root, a glorious red.

Mother's Day, a fine white.

Rita Wells, sort of apricot.

Incandescent, peach and gold.

Glamour for rose.

Hunts Velvet Wand for purple.

Radiant Beauty, lemon with flakes of red.

C. B. T.

## ADOBE SOIL AND DEVIL GRASS

I met two friends at the same time on coming to California, adobe and devil grass. Less than two years ago the word adobe carried no meaning for me. Frantically I sought advice, suggestions, etc. Remedies were worse than the pests at first, but by constant application and elimination, trial and error, (mostly the latter), at long last adobe yielded and we are at last on speaking terms. But that devil-grass never gives up—it has me going. Do its roots actually extend all the way to China? A definite suggestion from someone for its sure elimination would be appreciated.

—M.B.M.

## A GINGER LILY

I was given a Ginger Lily. It was not a very good looking plant—some eighteen inches high. I put it in a sheltered place that had been prepared for a Gardenia. A hole had been made two feet deep and a half a bag of leaf mold mixed with the soil. A good watering finished the planting. In a few weeks nice new shoots came up and soon

looked so fine that I cut off the old spent-looking foliage. These new shoots kept growing until they reached my shoulder, then each one had a cone-like bud which in a week or two brought forth exquisite, dainty, fragrant blooms. As many as seven to ten blossoms came on each bud that were delightful to see.

If you want a plant with bold, clean foliage and dainty fragrant white flowers, then plant a Ginger Lily. —M.A.G.

### FUCHSIAS

Discard radically all plants of poor quality at this time. Clean your good plants of all useless old growth and remove some branches, the position of which interferes too much with other better formed ones. In other words, shape your plants so that all branches have air and light to bloom. Do not yet prune the tips of branches, for that, you better wait till all danger of frost is past.

If your plants have been badly infested by pests of any kind, rake up and burn all droppings, leaves and flowers. If well kept and clean you may use the fallen leaves on your compost pile, or you may spade them into the ground before the rainy season. They make good food and soil conditioner.

You may start a few hardwood cuttings of the very best varieties for duplicate plants in your own garden or to spread happiness to others next spring. Do not make cuttings of a lot of inferior kinds and disappoint great hopes of beginners receiving them. G. Niederholzer.

Put Your **DAHLIAS** Away  
According to

M. C. PFEFFERKORN

September Issues Available

Mrs. DeForrest Ward, Secy.

Box 323, San Diego

## Cleanings From the Magazines

November House and Garden has a helpful article called "A White Bulb Garden," and with the fad for white flowers continuing unabated, we may expect to see the idea worked out by some of our gardening friends who love to experiment with things, and glory in a new project. The author describes a list of recommended bulbs, and asserts that it requires very little space and a comparatively small outlay to have a continuous display of lovely blooms from early spring to fall.

Also in the same magazine, the opening phrase of "Fireside Gardening" sheds light on an erstwhile mystery: "Not until the icy grip of Winter puts up a solid resistance to the prongs of his spading fork" . . . Is that why, man for man, woman for woman, our Eastern cousins are better gardeners than we are? Because they aren't compelled, willy-nilly, to work at it 365 days in the year, but through the bounty of a beneficent nature are permitted to spend five or six months sitting by the fireside just thinking about it?

Sunset has an unusually practical "November in the Garden" section; and a specialist on day-lilies has a good article on their culture. One question, however, he leaves unanswered; "which are the fragrant ones?"

"Better Homes and Gardens" for November has an "Indoor Gardening Guide" that should prove a boon to apartment-house dwellers, for it gives an illustrated list of the "eight best house-plants" as chosen by a group of florists. And because it is timely, we recommend to harassed makers of Christmas lists the "Gardening Gift Guide" in that magazine's December issue.

"The Flower Grower" coming from Albany, has in its November number an article on orchid-growing for amateurs which will surely gain converts for that increasingly large body of gardeners who would like to grow an orchid or two; many

of the terrestrial species are grown quite successfully here, out-of-doors. This "home gardener's magazine" also contains three fine articles on garden books by writers who "know their books," and most opportune, a list of almost thirty new garden books any one of which would bring joy to some garden lover, this includes a volume with the intriguing title: "Bee-keeping for all"!

Ida Louise Bryant

## Christmas Reading

The holiday season will be upon us now. In the spirit of the season and in that of all true plant lovers may I call attention to two books that come unvarnished from nature's gardens—gifts to you if you love a garden; to your gardening friends, if you like. The following unusually excellent treatments of California native plants reach the average gardener.

Lester Rowntree is releasing in book form now, that pent-up, first hand acquaintance with the natives gained over years of study and observation on the ground—the hills, the mountains and the valleys, the length and the breadth of the state. A new volume on shrubs is in the offing, but it is of the one on perennials I speak now, *Hardy Californians*, Macmillan, 1936, \$3.50. This work is complete, as only those who work with these individualists know. Moreover, it pre-sages the future of planting in certain types of gardens as no other book of recent years has done. Many of these plants are new to gardening literature and unknown in culture and I glimpse into what is to be, in rock and wildflower gardens when ever I open its covers.

All who enjoy reading of plants will appreciate her narrative-like description; the fanciful turn of a sentence in the near personification of a plant; anecdotes in the experience of an explorer that makes it read like a good novel. Throughout appear vital bits of information—points that derive back to the

(Continued on Page 6)



## Christmas Reading

(Continued from Page 5)

very places the plants inhabit of their own liking,—so that all gardeners who will grow these things now or in the years to come, may know that the ultimate authority lies in nature itself. Here is a bonny-good book with many exceedingly well-done cuts that will lie on a gardeners table for a goodly span of months, as it has been on mine.

And here is another one on Californias' plants that has been there nearly a year now, with that one above. It must be they continue there because of some over-plus, something beyond the printed word that one goes back to for support, a fullness of feeling that fills a peculiar need we gardeners have. Ralph D. Cornell, of Los Angeles, Landscape Architect, has given us a very readable volume, *Conspicuous California Plants*, San Pasqual Press, Pasadena, 1938, \$4.00. It came to me on Christmas day last, and it is my sincere wish it may be found this year by many other plant lovers. Mr. Cornell takes the more common species and treats them exhaustively. A great deal of research must have gone into this work and the reader finds himself exposed to enough of the scientific aspect for background, but never burdened. He will acquire great interest in the economic side and know what these plants meant to the Indians and early settlers. Can you picture the significance then, as an instance, of manzanita berries producing food value, acre per acre with wheat? He will find the meanings of the early Spanish names and a wealth of photographs—a portraiture of these plants we are coming to love so well that fairly sates the most greedy observant. Taken over many years, these pictures, in timing and composition are the creations of an artist and bring to the printed page for you those subjective qualities in nature, the very marrow and sap, so to speak, that is too often lost. One lies under the mystic spell of the redwoods, in awe; faces the majes-

(Continued on Page 8)

## Problems of the Soil . . . .

By R. R. McLEAN, County Agricultural Commissioner

### Pruning Loquats

**Question:** I have a loquat tree that badly needs pruning. Can you tell me when this should be done? When should peaches be pruned? —Mrs. A. W.

**Answer:** Loquats bear their fruit in the early spring on the wood of last season's growth. Pruning should therefore be done after the crop is off the trees and before the new growth begins. It would be impossible to prune now, of course, without cutting some of the new growth and so reducing the possible crop next spring. You can prune now if the tree really needs it, but have in mind that in the present season's growth lies your hope of a crop next spring. Sometimes loquats become so bushy with excessive new growth that the resulting crop is small in size. In that event, a judicious thinning, by means of winter pruning, is advisable.

Peaches which are pruned in the winter when dormant also bear their crop on the past season's new growth. This is taken into account when pruning is done and not all of the new growth is removed. However, there is a difference between peaches and loquats in that the former bear their fruit at intervals up and down the new growth and cutting back the tips a few inches does not greatly reduce the crop, while on the other hand loquats bear their fruit in terminal clusters, so that any removal of the tips will destroy the possibility of fruit.

### ROOT FUNGUS

**Question:** Please tell me what causes a white fungus around the roots of plants. Does it do any harm? I took up some bedding plants and found the earth around the roots full of this fungus. How can I destroy it? —S.B.

**Answer:** Although a white soil fungus may occasionally be found, it develops on dead organic matter in the soil as a rule and does no

injury to plants. The fact that you find this condition associated with plant roots indicates that root-feeding mealybugs are responsible rather than fungus. These insects spin a white web or mass of cottony material in which their eggs are laid, and at a casual glance this cottony mass would appear to be a fungus. The insects suck the juices from the roots of plants and the amount of injury they do is directly proportionate to their numbers.

Control is rather difficult inasmuch as any material strong enough to kill the insects, protected as they are by a white waxy covering, would also severely injure plant roots. If the bed is free from plant roots, you can inject carbon bisulphide two or three inches into the soil, about an ounce to the square foot, afterwards closing the holes and covering with old carpet or sacks. The bed can be replanted in a week or ten days. If plants are still in the soil, the next best thing is to pour over the roots a solution of oil emulsion and tobacco extract. This should not hurt the roots and will prove fairly effective in killing the mealybugs. Use one pint of any commercial oil emulsion as Volck, Triple X, etc., to 50 pints (8¼ gallons) of water and add 1 to 1¼ ounces of black leaf 40 or similar tobacco concentrate. Mix thoroughly and pour over the roots when the soil is dry enough to absorb the material.

### WILD LILAC

Those who grow these wildlings know something of the difficulties. The Santa Barbara Botanic Garden has preliminary notes out on a study of the genus *Ceanothus* which is the most complete treatment I have seen, botanically and from the practical standpoint of culture, pruning, irrigation, fertility etc. It is an attractive brochure, well worth the ten cents and a stamp that will bring it to you.—R.S.H.

## Birthday

On the eighth of November, the Floral Association met at the House of Hospitality to honor Miss Kate Sessions with a luncheon on the occasion of her eighty-second birthday. Three long palm sheaths brimming with a colorful array of tropical and seasonal fruits graced the table. After a delicious luncheon, a brightly lighted and gayly decorated cake was placed before the guest of honor, to the usual "happy birthday" tune as rendered by the guests, standing. The strolling Spanish troubadours gave a short serenade before Mrs. Greer called upon the speakers.

Mr. McLean was unable to be present, but others filled his place. Mr. Morley spoke of Miss Session's early days here. Mr. Jackson recalled his good fortune in having rented her house on his arrival here, the best of the bargain being, he said, that she came to see them often. Senator Harper offered happy felicitations, followed by Mr. Perry, who complimented our famous horticulturist on her farsightedness in long-time planting, years before the term had been coined. Mr. Jerabek told of the letter of introduction which Miss Sessions gave him, thru which he obtained his first position in San Diego, as being among his most valued possessions.

Miss Sessions responded with her heart-felt appreciation and then gave some splendid advice on new plantings and unconsciously revealed her eternal youthfulness on this eighty-second anniversary, when she exhorted her audience to plant more young oak trees to beautify our country-side. At the close of the meeting she was presented with a basket of choice fruits, as her well-wishers crowded up to greet her.

—Alice M. Clark

## DECEMBER MEETING

\* \* \*

Presentation of Gift Plants

\* \* \*

Yuletide Singing

## WAR!! WAR!! WAR!!

This morning as I opened my cabinet for munitions and armaments in preparation for hostilities I consulted the commanding officer who declared: "There can be no neutrality when dealing with this great army of garden pests. You cannot sit at the conference table and a war of words is futile. On land you cannot use torpedoes nor place mines in their way. The bugs demand more than a fair share. Their ravages cannot be overlooked and so you must meet war with war."

### General Orders

With machine guns you must traverse for aphids, a volley of nicotine here; and there place a barrage of sulphur dust on the mildew. Assault in successive waves of lines of skirmishers the belligerent red spider, the main attack a forceful deluge of water from the minnen-werfer hose. Trap in each and every salient the foraging snails—call the prowler car if too large to handle. With searching fire waylaw the slugs with deadly metholdehyde before they enter their dougouts and other safety shelters—mop up area occupied thoroughly. Destroy utterly the furry-armored coat of the mealy-bug and notify all organizations to beware lest their confederates, that shock battalion of ants get into their masks for your gas attack. Drop death-dealing bombs into the mined runs of the gopher, and close with chevaux de frise the connecting trenches of the field mice for they are already dangerous allies. Send the despised nematodes to a distant concentration camp and fire their ammunition dumps. Set up an emplacement, a wall of defense against marauding rabbits. Pierce the bullet proof suit of the sniping beetles, using high explosive. Poison the slum in each company kitchen serving the myriad worms.

These combatants will make many broad advances and minor raids. You will place in effect "D" plan offence, keep wire up and stick to the firing line. There will be no mediation, truce nor peace. Carry on until the enemy be positively exterminated from your garden world.

Katherine V. Lewis.

## November Meeting

Association members and friends listened to an exceptionally informative and enthralling talk on lilies Tuesday, November 21st. Mrs. Mildred Lawson lives in Carlsbad, California where they are learning how to grow these regal flowers and came well prepared to describe and suggest ways and means for growing these plants in the Southland. We know, now why there are so few seen here in gardens, how the disease, mosaic, tends to hold success in abeyance and how to start, clean and stay clean.

Few people know these bulbs are being grown commercially in this locality for dealers in other parts of the country that are supposed to be climatically better fitted for culture. We hope and trust this information may be placed upon the written page for those who were unable to be present. The subject is vital to gardens and should be covered fully and with more publicity.—C.B.T.

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## Rose Show as Seen by Ada Perry

I said several times while Garden Gating that holding the winter rose show, 1939, in the Fine Arts gallery was a very lovely idea and there were 773 people by quarter after three who agreed with me Saturday . . . Sunday there were 2500.

I like to brag when I call something, even if it's that easy. And those people—well, you, for instance, and Aunt Maggie — just mooned around looking at roses and pictures and etchings and roses and roses and statuary. Just as happy as goldfinches in a sunflower patch. The interesting galleries on the main floor were flanked by picture boxes and arrangements. You wove back and forth, circling a huge bed of roses in the middle, smelling and looking like heaven, and then you ascended the broad stairs, stopping to admire the Wheelock giraffes eating rose hips and looking pleased. And you found you were in second heaven for you could look down on that rose bed and sniff its ascending perfume. About you on the second floor were more roses, and arrangements, and another rose bed hedged in green right at hand. More picture galleries, too, and I peeped in one and caught the Manet 19th century portrait of a gentleman and near him the Paris street scene in the 19th century by Pissarro. Usually have to work to appreciate paintings but not those two, thanks to who were responsible. Table decorations of the milky glass epergne with yellow roses atop and limes and strawberries below, and the Lion glass with roses in the covered compotes were very intriguing. So were the breakfast trays—a wee Cecil Brunner in your napkin—and the enchanting arrangement by young Curtis Vaughn in the student classes. We use only one name in our reviews, Curtis, and you're elected this time. Downstairs again were student picture boxes, all so beguiling, and other picture boxes and arrangements—that one of Talisman roses and persimmon leaves—Sadie of the Stars, bas relief picture box in comedy

vein—and carry on, will you? My space is gone. Sincerely, Ada Perry, "Over the Garden Gate," Wednesdays at 10:45, KGB.

### APPOINTMENT

Regional Forester S. D. Shaw of San Francisco announces the appointment of Mr. Norman Farrell of San Diego to the position of Forest Supervisor of the Cleveland National Forest. Mr. Farrell has been acting as Forest Supervisor since the transfer of former Forest Supervisor Dean last spring, and his well-merited promotion is in recognition of his excellent services during the past several years on a number of National Forests in California.

### FLOWERS—BEES—HONEY

A small boy on a pioneer San Diego County ranch, remembering some of the tricks and contrivances of survival those early days, tells of the bee men and their ways, which may or may not bear on possibilities in location of modern plantings.

Dewey Kelly, local nurseryman and man-about-town of the garden clubs offers this bit for local color interest, if not more worth.

These bee men on location made a practice of taking pieces of oil cloth, which was always in evidence in the early homes as table coverings, and scattering them about in likely spots for prospective apiaries to check on the amount of natural dewfall at night.

By looking at them in the early morning, they could tell which would be the better locations. Some of the flowerings came late in the spring and, in the absence of late rains, the localities with the greatest condensation of dew meant a longer bloom and a following larger yield of honey.

S. D. Floral Association meeting held third Tuesday of each month at Floral Bldg., Balboa Park, 7:30 p. m.

## Christmas Reading

(Continued from Page 6)

ty, the purity of candles of God, this masterpiece set like living jewels against a dim mountain background; or the illusory, the ethereal, the cloud-built smoke-tree against a desert sky. And this writer saw here for the first time, a blooming spray of the ironwood from Catalina.

As a very young man Mr. Cornell studied these wildlings with Theodore Payne, lived with them where they grew, so that he knows them there and, moreover, is well qualified now to tell how to domesticate and bring them into the garden. This he does in words that express deep feeling for the subject; words beautifully placed together in a pattern that is a veritable tracery of the plants themselves. I want to have this book always.

Roland Hoyt

And now, supposing I come out into the clear and suggest to those who have read this far, that the *California Garden* might make an acceptable Christmas gift to some garden-minded friend.—R.S.H.

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## Schizanthus

(Continued from Page 1)

comes at the base of every leaf.

This is the soil mixture I use;  
1 twelve quart pail of plaster  
sand.

1 twelve quart pail of Peat.

2 twelve quart pails of sifted  
leaf mold.

1 twelve quart pail of light soil.

1 pint charcoal.

1 pint bonemeal.

½ pint nitrogranitic.

A handful of iron oxide.

Mixed very thoroughly; damp,  
but not wet.

This sounds like a lot of work  
but I know you will think it pays  
when you see your Flower Show of  
jewelled butterflies in rose, pink,  
lavender, purple and white. Mine  
start blooming in February and last  
into May. The cut sprays keep a  
week in water, and the foliage is  
beautiful.

—Katherine Stickney Sneve

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